

**AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS**

A new set of drawings containing Figs. 1, 2, 3 and 4 which correct the objections of the Examiner are attached hereto.

### **REMARKS**

The claims have been extensively amended to correct the claim objections made by the last Action to claims 3-7, 9 and 10 and also to respond to the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejections to the claims as failing to comply with the written description requirement and being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention.

The amendments clearly comply with all of the Examiner's objections and rejections.

#### **The Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102**

Claims 3, 7, 8 and 11 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Crorey et al., 6,619,872. Claims 7 and 11, the two independent claims, have been amended to include the limitations of a base member fixed to a first end of one of the elongated members and an article to be supported fixed to a first end of the other elongated member. It is respectfully submitted that the purpose and function of the present invention, as defined by claims 7 and 11, clearly distinguishes from the disclosure of the Crorey et al. patent. Crorey discloses an adjustable support mechanism for retaining a single elongated member 20 to a base member 14 but does not disclose an adjustable support stand comprising a pair of elongated members, with a base on the end of one member, an article support member on the far end of the second member, and an adjustable mechanism as defined by the claims connecting the two. Claims 7 and 11 have been amended to emphasize this distinction between the present invention and Crorey et al. The arrangement illustrated in Figure 3 of Crorey et al. wherein a pair of elongated members are joined by the adjustable joint does not comply with the limitations of claim 7 relating to a pair of knuckles, each attached to one of their members, each knuckle having an internally splined

central hole; and a cylindrical pin formed with axially extending splines adapted to be inserted through the internally splined holes of the two knuckles. Figure 4 of Crorey et al. should be compared to Figure 3 of the present invention. The splined link for joining the two sections 36a and 36b is totally lacking in Crorey et al. Instead, Crorey et al. provides a unitary member 69, joining the two end sections. Similarly, in Figure 11, the joinder between the two sections 36a and 36b is defined in the form of each knuckle having an internally splined hole and a cylindrical pin joining the two. No equivalent structure is present in Crorey et al.

Reconsideration and allowance of the rejected claims is accordingly respectfully solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

By /Allen M. Krass/

Allen M. Krass

Registration No.: 18,277

GIFFORD, KRASS, SPRINKLE,

ANDERSON & CITKOWSKI, P.C.

2701 Troy Center Drive, Suite 330

Post Office Box 7021

Troy, Michigan 48007-7021

(248) 647-6000

(248) 647-5210 (Fax)

Attorney for Applicant